



NEWS RELEASE

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FALL POTATO VARIETIES 2015

This report provides the results of a special survey of potato growers in the San Luis Valley, which was conducted to evaluate potato varieties planted for the 2015 fall crop. The survey was conducted by the USDA/NASS Colorado Field Office with funding from the Colorado State University, San Luis Valley Research Center. Data were collected from potato growers by return mail or by telephone interviews with enumerators. The survey was not sampled to provide a direct expansion of seeded acreage by variety or a measure of the sampling error. Responses to this year's survey covered 24,232 acres, which was 46 percent of the 52,800 total acres planted in the San Luis Valley.

Russet varieties accounted for 69.7 percent of the 52,800 acres of all potatoes planted in the San Luis Valley for the 2015 crop, compared with 76.6 percent last year. **Yellow Flesh varieties** were planted on 13.8 percent of the total acreage, which was up from 8.3 percent in 2014. **Red varieties** represented 7.7 percent of the total, an increase of 0.9 percentage points from the previous year. The remaining 8.8 percent of the total was made up of **White and Other varieties**.

Russet Norkotah, although down from 2014, continued its ranking as the most popular variety among producers by being planted on 35.3 percent of the total potato acreage and accounting for 50.7 percent of all russet potatoes. Norkotah Selection 3 remained the most popular Russet Norkotah, accounting for 13.0 percent of the total acres planted; Norkotah Selection 8 claimed 9.7 percent of the acreage; Norkotah 296 represented 7.0 percent; Norkotah 278 had 1.8 percent; and all other Norkotah selections totaled 3.8 percent. The **Canela Russet** variety ranked second among russet varieties in 2015 by being planted on 10.5 percent of the total acreage and representing 15.1 percent of all russet varieties. The **Classic Russet** was the third most popular russet variety, representing 5.9 percent of the total acreage and 8.4 percent of all russet potatoes. **Centennial Russet** ranked fourth among russets with 4.9 percent of the total acreage. **Rio Grande Russet** was next with 2.5 percent, and **Fortress Russet** accounted for 1.5 percent of all potatoes planted. All **Other Russet varieties** were planted on 9.1 percent of the total acreage in the San Luis Valley.

Red varieties accounted for 7.7 percent of the planted acreage in 2015. The leading variety, **Modoc**, was planted on 2.9 percent of the total potato acreage followed by **Rooster** with 1.8 percent. All **Other Red varieties** totaled 3.0 percent.

Satina, a yellow variety, was planted on 4.5 percent of the total acreage and represented 32.6 percent of all yellow flesh varieties, while **Yukon Gold** accounted for 2.6 percent of the total acreage and 18.8 percent of all yellow flesh potatoes. **Other Yellow Flesh varieties** totaled 6.7 percent of all potatoes planted.

Fingerlings accounted for 2.8 percent of all potatoes planted. **Other White and Other varieties**, including other white varieties, research varieties, and other specialty type potatoes, comprised the remaining 6.0 percent of the total potato acreage. **Chipeta** accounted for the largest acreage under Other White but was not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

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	2011 Crop	2012 Crop	2013 Crop	2014 Crop	2015 Crop	
Variety	Reported Percent of All Potatoes				Reported Percent of All Potatoes	Reported Percent of Varietal Group
	Percent				Percent	
Russet Varieties:						
Russet Norkotah.....	49.3	52.5	51.5	40.3	35.3	50.7
Norkotah 3.....	27.1	25.4	28.8	23.4	13.0	18.7
Norkotah 8.....	4.7	10.7	9.5	7.2	9.7	13.9
Norkotah 296.....	...	...	3.2	4.0	7.0	10.0
Norkotah 278.....	...	...	...	1.5	1.8	2.6
Norkotah, all other 1/.....	17.5	16.4	10.0	4.2	3.8	5.5
Canela Russet.....	11.5	8.7	9.6	9.6	10.5	15.1
Classic Russet.....	6.6	4.3	7.2	8.3	5.9	8.4
Centennial Russet.....	4.0	5.0	2.6	3.8	4.9	7.0
Rio Grande Russet.....	6.2	4.7	4.5	6.3	2.5	3.6
Fortress Russet.....	...	...	...	...	1.5	2.1
Other Russet 2/.....	9.4	12.8	8.6	8.3	9.1	13.1
TOTAL RUSSET.....	87.0	88.0	84.0	76.6	69.7	100.0
Red Varieties:						
Modoc.....	...	...	...	...	2.9	37.7
Rooster.....	...	...	...	2.2	1.8	23.4
Other Red 3/.....	D	D	D	4.6	3.0	38.9
TOTAL RED.....	1.0	1.0	4.0	6.8	7.7	100.0
Yellow Flesh Varieties:						
Satina.....	...	...	...	...	4.5	32.6
Yukon Gold.....	2.2	1.9	2.9	1.8	2.6	18.8
Other Yellow 4/.....	5.8	3.1	6.1	6.5	6.7	48.6
TOTAL YELLOW FLESH.....	8.0	5.0	9.0	8.3	13.8	100.0
White and Other Varieties:						
Fingerlings.....	...	...	...	3.4	2.8	31.8
Chipeta.....	D	...	D	1.1	D	D
Other White and Other Varieties 5/.....	D	6.0	D	3.8	6.0	68.2
TOTAL WHITE and OTHER.....	4.0	6.0	3.0	8.3	8.8	100.0
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

... Indicates varietal percentage is very minor or not available.

D Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

1/ Other Norkotahs for 2015 include Norkotah 112, Norkotah 212, Norkotah Standard, and others.

2/ Other Russets for 2015 include Blazer Russet, Innovator, Mesa Russet, Russet Nugget, Tebina Russet, Teton Russet, and others.

3/ Other Reds for 2015 include Asterix, Cherry Red, Ciklamen, Colorado Rose, Mozart, Sangre, and others.

4/ Other Yellows for 2015 include Alegria, Latona, Lanorma, and others.

5/ Other White and Other Varieties for 2014 include Atlantic, Chipeta, Purple Majesty, and others.